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during my training in a large maternity ward, and in three or four cases on private duty, I have found these shields very useful. They can be made thoroughly aseptic by simple boiling, are easily scoured and cleaned. I have found them obtainable at almost every drugstore, and have usually paid fifty cents a pair for them. They may be held in place by a little band, and are worn only between nursings.

Dr. DeLee, in his Obstetrics For Nurses, says, "The theory is that the lactic acid in the milk acts on the lead, and the nipple is bathed continuously in a sort of lead water application. This explanation has been questioned, but the fact remains that the little appliance is very successful in curing cracked and ulcerated nipples." In connection with the lead shield I have used the glass nipple shield during nursing, only just so long as the nipple was too sore to allow the baby to nurse from it directly.

This is a simple, not costly and clean device, and very effective.

Wisconsin. E. K. D.

A REMEDY FOR CHAFING, AND A WARNING

Dear Editor: I happened to be in a family recently where the three and a half year old boy was desperately ill, and a beautiful, healthy, but very fat baby of nine months had not quite so much attention as usual. After a few warm days, and before anyone realized it, his buttocks and the creases in the groins became perfectly raw, and part of the time bled. We used every precaution, trying not to let him be wet at all and using all the different powders and mixtures of salve and powder that I could think of, but with no improvement whatever. One day I made a mixture of lycopodium powder and pure oxide of zinc, equal parts, and it practically healed over night. In twenty-four hours the skin was not even red. I had tried each of these alone, but the lycopodium has no medicinal quality, and the oxide of zinc alone just made a paste that rolled up in balls, as there was so much exudate there, but together, the powder was drying and the oxide of zinc healing.

Another experience I had might be of help to others. I was assisting at an operation in the country where the house was lighted by gasoline lights. It was at night, and as ether could not be used, on account of its inflammable qualities, the anesthetist gave chloroform. It was very well given, and not more used than was absolutely necessary, but we soon felt a terrible choking sensation in our throats and had the doors opened to relieve it. Everything seemed favorable for the patient at first, but the next day he showed signs of nephritis, and died on the third day. We found out later that the combination of the two gases forms a very poisonous gas, which is heavy, so we did not notice it till it had gotten up to our level.

Maryland. S. M. T.

CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

Dear Editor: I inclose a clipping sent me by a Massachusetts nurse (the clipping is headed: "Didn't learn enough by mail. No correspondence school graduates who took state veterinary examinations last year were allowed to practice.") to show you that even the veterinary surgeons are fighting the correspondence schools. It does not seem to me that we, as nurses, are doing enough to fight the correspondence schools of nursing. I, personally, have sent protests to two magazines to which I subscribe, about printing such advertisements, viz., the *Delineator* and the *Ladies' Home Journal.* If every nurse in the country would protest, the editors might notice it, but one lone nurse protesting is not noticed. These same magazines advertise that for the benefit of their subscribers they only take advertisements from *reputable* firms. Who can reconcile the two facts? Also who makes the reputations of the schools from which they accept the advertising?

New York. E. C.

A HOME-MADE HOSPITAL DOLL

Dear Editor: The question of what kind of a dummy or doll to use in teaching practical nursing procedures, is one that most instructors are called upon to solve. Several varities may be purchased, and they prove more or less satisfactory, but the best of these are rather expensive.

A good way to get a doll that is warranted to be cheap and satisfactory, is to make one. Some time ago a doll of this kind was made at Bellevue and it proved very useful. Following this suggestion we have just finished one at St. Luke's. The cost of the doll, not considering the time that was required to make it, was $7.30. The materials used were as follows rubber cloth (double width) 2½ yds.; cotton waste, 12 rolls; rubber gloves, (white), 1 pair; hair; mask.

As we had no pattern, a great deal of time was spent in cutting one. This was the most difficult part of the task. After cutting the cloth, we made the doll in this way: the legs were finished separately and the trunk, head and arms made together. The whole was stuffed tightly with cotton waste, weights being put into the feet, arms, head and body. The joints furnished one of the greatest problems. The elbow and knee joints were made by inserting fairly large gussetts at the proper places. At these points the packing was put in more loosely and the result was a freely movable joint. By loosely packing the shoulder, we allowed for a fair degree of motion at that point. The hands were made by packing the fingers of the rubber gloves and cementing them to the bottom of the arms. Before the body was finished we grew ambitious and decided to put in a tube which would make it possible to teach vaginal douching on this dummy. This proved rather difficult but we succeeded in getting it in place and also in working out a better plan to use another time. We believe that it would be comparatively easy to fit in a tube in the following way: Have the open end of the tube fitted into a flange, the back of which has been roughened and around the circumference of which a number of holes have been pierced. Cement to this roughened surface a large square of rubber cloth, the rubber being in contact with the metallic surface. This can then be placed inside the body, the square of rubber being stitched to the dorsal and ventral surfaces of the trunk, and the outside rubber stitched to the square around the tube, through the holes in the flange. Any spaces could be filled in with rubber cement. Naturally this tube must be put in at a sufficient angle to permit of free drainage and this fact must be kept in mind while packing the body. To insert a tube in this manner would necessitate leaving the head open, the trunk, and arms being stuffed through this opening. This would also give the opportunity for covering up some of the cruder stitches with the hair and mask and would insure a neater result. The bottom of the body and the top of the legs were finished by binding with wide tape and the two were whipped together with strong thread. Over the rubber face was placed an ordinary theatrical mask, which had been given a coat of white varnish. For the hair was used a transformation,